



## CONGRESSMAN BOBBY L. RUSH 1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

### Children's Issues

*"I am passionate about the education, safety, security and prosperity of America's children".*



## Legislative Spotlight

### Did You Know?

- In 2005, there were 8.3 million uninsured children in the United States.
- There are currently over half a million children in the foster care system in the United States today.
- According to the Department of Children and Family Services, as of April 2007 there are 16,157 children in substitute care in Illinois.
- In the United States, over six million children are living with a relative as their caregiver, approximately four and a half million of these with grandparents.
- According to the last census, nearly two and a half million grandparents reported that they were primarily responsible for their grandchildren.
- The same census survey tells us that nearly 20% of these grandparents live in poverty.
- More than 1 in 3 children or adolescents are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight.

### Rush Pledges Commission Reform Package that keeps harmful child products away from children

A hearing held by Energy and Commerce Subcommittee Chairman Bobby L. Rush yesterday revealed serious shortcomings in the country's consumer product review system.

"It is unfortunate that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reportedly failed to do its job to protect this young child. The CPSC must respond immediately to warnings and complaints in an effective and efficient manner," said Rep. Rush.

"If the federal government cannot deliver on this basic responsibility to help parents keep their children away from avoidable hazards, then we are not doing our job. As chairman of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, I intend to do all I can to solve this terrible problem," he added.

The roughly four-hour hearing examined the authority and budget



Chairman Rush speaks to reporters after Congressional field hearing June 18, 2007

magnets that fell out of a toy. "What I want to take away from this hearing—what I want to understand—is why it took the *Chicago Tribune* to do a thorough, investigative story on Magnetix to finally get this product off the shelves," said Rush.

### Congressman Rush introduces gun legislation named after Blair Holt, the Julian High School hero.

In Chicago, since the beginning of this school year alone, over 31 children have lost their life by violence, and the great majority were killed with guns.

Rush was joined by Ronald Holt, the father of Blair Holt, Rufus Williams, president of the Chicago Board of Education, law enforcement officials and community activists to introduce Blair Holt's Firearm Licensing and Record of Sale Act of 2007-HR 2666 (Blair's Bill) aimed at curbing senseless violence by implementing a uniform system for purchasers of certain firearms.

## Current Legislation Cosponsored By Congressman Rush

I am passionate about the safety security and prosperity of America's Children. This passion is evident through the legislation that I cosponsored such as:

**H.R.1655:** Children's Access to Reconstructive Evaluation & Surgery (CARES) Act of 2007.

**H.R.684:** Keeping Our Promises to America's Children Act of 2007.

**H.R. 1688:** All Healthy Children Act of 2007.

**H.R.2236:** Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2007.

**H.R.468:** Communities of Color

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Act of 2007.

**H.R. 1108:** Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

**H.Res.37:** Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that all workers deserve fair treatment and safe working conditions, and honoring Dolores Huerta for her commitment to the improvement of working conditions for farm worker families and the rights of women and children.

**H.R. 701:** Government Reservation Accelerated Development for Education Act.

**H.R. 1553:** Conquer Childhood

Cancer Act of 2007.

**H.R. 2746:** Prevent Prematurity and Improve Child Health Act of 2007.

**H.R. 2723:** Children's Health Care Quality Act.

**H. Con. Res. 19** Affirming the sense of Congress regarding the obligation of the United States to improve the lives of the 36,950,000 Americans living in poverty and the 15,928,000 of those who live in extreme poverty.

**H.R. 352** Poverty Impact Trigger Act of 2007.